Mar Lou Miller) 109

Roosevelt Students Plan Many Christmas Parties, Activities; Carry on Gift House Tradition; Rooms Present Varied Programs

As in years past, Roosevelt students will participate in varied holiday activities during the Christmas weeks. Parties, helping the needy, and all-school activities have been planned.

Tonight the Sophomore class will sponsor the annual Christmas party held in the school gym. Jerry Beissel and his orchestra will furnish the music and the dance will be semi-formal.

Again this year, some homerooms will fix a basket for a needy family. The names are submitted by the City Welfare Department and are distributed by this committee.

With more than forty years of service behind it, the Roosevelt gift house has again been set up in the foyer of the school. Originated more than forty years ago, by Miss Margaret Wise, the house has been the medium through which the holiday spirit has been maintained in Roosevelt.

The Roosevelt chorus under the direction of Miss Lillian Ashby and the English department will present the annual Christmas program. A play under the direction of Miss Susan Stinson and Miss Thelma McAndless will be presented, and the chorus will present several Christmas songs.

On Friday morning, Dec. 20, the grades will gather in the traditional singing of Christmas carols. The carols will be sung either in the auditorium or the foyer and will be directed by Miss Ashby and Mr. Chester Ryan, with the school orchestra accompanying the singing.

Mr. Lawrence DeBoer will have on display in his room a series of Madonna prints.

Miss Lillian Ashby will have the show-cose display of Christmas scenes taken from foreign color magazines and art sources. The collection has been made over a period of years and has grown to a miniature art exhibit.

THE ROUGH RIDER

Volume 15 Roosevelt High School, Ypsilanti, Michigan, Dec. 13, 1940 Number 5

Sophs Present Party Tonight

Headlined by original decorations and the music of Jerry Beissel, the Sophomore class will present their annual Christmas party to the school tonight, in the gym, from 8:30 to 11:30.

According to the co-chairmen, Wesley Durfee and Margaret Miller, this year's edition of the classic will be bigger and better than ever. In evidence of this, the affair has been announced as semi-formal and open.

Chairman Lucretia Dell is striving to obtain an outdoor atmosphere in the gym and is employing a false ceiling to further the effect. She is being assisted by Everett Chappell, Mary Alice Warner, and Donald Breault.

Heading the refreshments committee for the party is Marion Brand who promises generous portions of ice cream and cookies.

Publicity for the party is being handled by Roberta Luedemann, publicity chairman. Peggy Leslie, Herman Keller, Helen Crawford, and Karl Klaffke make up the reception and invitation committees. Grace Sugars, LaMar Miller, Don Woodward, and Betty Thompson make up the clean-up committee.

Beissel and his orchestra played for the Sophomore Reception earlier in the year.

Debaters Seek Win From Belleville Squad

Dropping a decision to the Dundee negative team, the Roosevelt debate squad must win its two remaining contests to qualify for the statee elimination series. The decision was awarded to Dundee because in the opinion of the judge, the Rough Rider speakers failed to answer their opponents' questions satisfactorily.

Belleville s affirmative team will provide the opposition for Roosevelt in their next contest.

Ben VandenBelt, Jr., Bill Worth, and Richard Davis constituted the Roosevelt team in the Dundee debate and Helen Williams was timekeeper.

In the Belleville tilt, Margaret Lambert, Betty Menzi, and Helen Williams will uphold the Roosevelt side.

Menzi Succeeds VandenBelt As Roosevelt Principal

RHS Faculty Honor VandenBelt, Menzi

Mr. and Mrs. Ben H. VandenBelt and Mr .and Mrs. Leonard Menzi were guests of honor at a formal dinner given by the Roosevelt faculty on Dec. 1. The dinner was in the nature of a farewell to Mr. VandenBelt and a welcome to Mr. Menzi, Roosevelt's new principal.

Russell Cosper was toastmaster for the short program. Mr. Cosper introduced two students, Jean Johnson of the fourth grade and Bob Hoppse, president of the Student Council. Miss Elizabeth McCrickett, Miss Mildred Crawford, and Miss Hartman represented the elementary, high-school and student faculties respectively. President John Munson and Mr. Leslie Butler represented the administration.

Miss Eleanor Meston toasted the wives of the honored guests while Miss Stinson introduced them. Both Mr. Menzi and Mr. VandenBelt said a few words.

Music was furnished by Mr. Matt Lappinen who presented a vocal solo accompanied by Miss Thelma McAndless. Two former Roosevelt students, Marie Turner and Eleanor Stoltz supplied incidental music.

Former Head Receives Gifts From Groups

Mr. and Mrs. Ben H. VandenBelt have been presented wth several farewell gifts by various school organizations. Included were a leather brief case and a radio clock.

John Kennedy, Mary Alice Warner, and Bob Hopps comprised the committee from the Student Council who presented Mr. VandenBelt with the brief case.

The Senior class committee made up of Betty Cooney, chairman, Joan Schrepper, Alfred Burrell, and Arlo Cox presented Mr. and Mrs. VandenBelt with the clock on Friday, Nov. 29.

Assistant's Post Becomes Vacant

Mr. Leonard Menzi, assistant principal of Roosevelt for three years, has been appointed principal to succeed Mr. Ben H. VandenBelt. Mr. VandenBelt became head of Lincoln school on Dec. 1, and Mr. Menzi assumed his duties at that time.

In 1928, three years after the opening of Roosevelt, Mr. Menzi came here as teacher of physics and chemistry. Upon the resignation of Miss Vinora Beal three years ago, Mr. Menzi became assistant principal. Besides his administrative and teaching duties, Mr. Menzi has been in charge of attendance records, and has served as tennis coach for many years.

His early life was spent in Ohio and South Dakota. After attendance at three high schools, he graduated from an academy at Berea, Kentucky, in 1914. He taught school for three years. Then with the declaration of War, he enlisted in the Marines. He was wounded, and after several months in a hospital, was given an honorable discharge as a crippled veteran.

Upon his return to this country, Mr. Menzi took his bachelor's degree from Oberlin College. There followed a five-year job as principal of an American school in Tungshien, China. He returned to this country and took his master's degree from the University of Chicago. After completing his work and receiving his degree in 1928, Mr. Menzi came to Roosevelt.

His tennis teams have turned in phenomenal records in his years as a coach. Several times regional and League champs, the teams have received many honors.

He also sponsors the photography club. His sponsoring of tennis and photography are reflective of his spare time activities, as he is an expert in both fields.

Married and the father of four children, he lives in Ypsilanti.

New Principal

Mr. Leonard Menzi

Seniors Promote School Operetta

Plans to promote an all-school operetta were discussed by the senior class in their meeting Dec. 5. President Ted Weber appointed a committee to publicize and coordinate efforts for presenting the operetta. Alfred Burrell heads the committee, and Bob Hopps and Joan Schrepper complete its membership.

Bill Swihart, class treasurer, has charge of collecting dues and says they are not coming in regularly. He urges the students to pay them before Christmas. The dues are 50 cents for the first semester, and the remaining amount will be assessed as soon as the need arises.

Seniors have decided to abandon the idea of a senior breakfast since few evinced interest.

With the advent of winter sports, the seniors will open their winter concession season. Mary Steimle has been appointed to supervise the sale of candy, and she will appoint her own committee.

The task of reading plays for the Junior-Senior set of plays to be given in late winter has started. The seniors hope to have the plays chosen and cast so the roles can be memorized during Christmas vacation.

THE ROUGH RIDER

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Volume XV Friday, Dec. 13, 1940 Number 5

Benefits from Christmas Seal Sales Warrant the Purchase of Them

Stamp collecting is a hobby which relatively few people enjoy. To the average person, a stamp holds no interest whatsoever, but there is one gummed piece of paper that everyone should recognize, respect, and use.

Each Christmas season, Christmas seals make their appearance. The proceeds from the sale of these seals is used to combat tuberculosis. Through the sale of these stamps sanitariums where victims of the disease may rest are set up, research laboratories are endowed to find new ways to stop it, and the public is told of the symptoms and methods of prevention.

Consequently, whether interested in common stamps or not, let every student get behind the sale of a stamp which signifies the charity of Americans. Buy Tuberculosis Christmas seals!

Careful, Courteous, Capable—The 3 C's of a Roosevelt Code

Any time Tom Harmon feels he needs a little practice in open-field running, he is cordially invited to come over and attempt to walk through the Roosevelt corridors while classes are changing.

The problem is really becoming acute. A person is put out when he is delayed, but the put out one is quick to delay another. Unless Roosevelt students begin to observe the Golden Rule, there is going to be a stalemate effected and no one will get any place.

Every student doesn't have the ability of Harmon, so for the good of all let's have more courtesy and common sense in our corridor conduct.

Reporter Says British Defend United States

Expressing his belief that when the Royal Air Force falls, the United States will be open to invasion, H. R. Knickerbocker, well-known foreign correspondent, told 2,000 high school journalists of his first-hand experiences with the second World War. He spoke in Cleveland, Nov. 28, for the N.S.P.A. convocation.

Pointing out that England must fall if her Air Force is vanquished, Mr. Knickerbocker said, "never have so many owed so much to so few."

it was the Royal Air Force that prevented the British Isles from falling prey to Hitler's legions. He pointed out that 70 per cent of the military divisions of England were unarmed in September since all troops evacuated from Dunkirk were forced to leave their arms in the fated French port. ....

With his red hair accentuating his speech, Mr. Knickerbocker proceeded to tell of the terrific damage done to Britain by the Nazi aviators and of the unbelievable morale of the British.

Recounting the heroism of England's defenders he told of the work of London's fire brigades. He then touched on the heroism of the civilian brigades. How men and women working all day can spend the night in uniform waiting for the inevitable air raid and then with but a few hours' sleep go to work again were related by Mr. Knickerbocker.

In telling of the work of the Royal Air Force, he confessed that he did not know which division, the fighters or bombers, endured the greater strain. The nerve shattering flights in the huge bombers over Germany and Italy were contrasted with the short, sudden-death aerial fights over England proper.

An Observer's Opinion

Rabid sports fans are apt to judge teams by their past performances. Since we have a "rookie" making his bow in "big-time" in Principal Leonard Menzi, we are going to delve into his past and see what we can find.

A businesslike administration is assured. Anyone who can keep the attendance records straight and find anything in that maze of files in the clinic must be a business man at heart.

Those who have been in Mr. Menzi's classes know that he can find out what a student is thinking before the student is quite sure. So an understanding of student problems is assured.

And if he can coach the school as well as he has the tennis team, Roosevelt is headed for another championship year. Efficiency, thoroughness, and sportsmanship are planks in his platform.

Well-known for his jokes (he really knows some), Mr. Menzi certainly will continue the tradition of jovial principals. Just as we last week wished Mr. VandenBelt good luck, we now do the same for Mr. Menzi and ensure him our cooperation.

* * *

This paper may be slightly different in appearance from its predecessors, but we hope it meets with the approval of the students. It is designed to catch and keep the interest from wandering.

Breaking precedent, this paper will not come out the day before vacation ends. It makes it easier for us since we have a week to clear up mailing and postal matters before vacation. The shop gets a week to clean up for the heavy jobs which come in at the first of the year. And the reader will get a chance to obtain a review and preview of Roosevelt Christmas activities.

MERRY
XMAS
DW

For 46th year, Gift House Opens

For many years the Christmas activities of Roosevelt have centered around the Giant Stocking and the Gift House. This idea was conceived by Miss Margaret Wise in 1894 then supervising teacher in the old Training Building. According to the original plan, a gigantic red stocking was hung in the hall in which the children could drop their discarded toys. As time went on, more and more gifts were received until the stocking was filled to overflowwing. Still more contributions brought about the birth of the gift house.

This year the elementary students are once again assuming the responsibility of seeing that this idea is carried out. The Giant Stocking was in the foyer Dec. 6. On Dec. 9 the Gift House was officially opened. The sixth grade pupils have had charge of decorating the exterior of the house, while the fifth graders have decorated the interior. Fourth grade pupils had charge of decorating the Christmas trees placed beside the house.

As is also the custom, Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus and their elfin helpers, all from the first grade, danced through the building and pleaded for presents to fill the Gift House. It is anticipated that Roosevelt students will break all previous records, and help to make this the biggest Christmas of all for the less fortunate of Ypsilanti.

21 Swimmers, 24 Basketballers Compete for Varsity Positions

Competition Will Begin For Tankers on Jan. 9

With large turn-outs in both basketball and swimming, the winter sports are entering their third week of practice. As yet no contests besides the Alumni game are scheduled for before-Christmas basketball. As for swimming, no contests have ever been scheduled before Christmas. There are 21 aspirants out for swimming and 24 out for basketball. A list of the candidates are as follows:

Basketball: Robert Holloway, Bill Swihart, Allan Schreiner, Phillip Fletcher, Robert Hopps (Capt.), Alfred Burrell, Bill Love, Glen Merrifield, Delmar Seleska, John Kennedy, Glen Durham, Frank Whitehouse, Wendell Schoolmaster, Raymond Wingrove, Robert Moorman, Tom Harris, Stanley Snodgrass, Richard Meldrum, Charles Nutting, Jim Burnett, Gillis Turner, Richard Hosman, Kenneth Richardson, and Hugh Ableson. Swimming: Arthur Campbell, Noel Campbell, Donald Woodward, Ted Thomas, Arlo Cox (Capt.), Robert Ferguson, Jim Davis, George Black, Roger Smith, Robert Dunn, Robert Clay, Charles Dean, Eugene Lomas, Phillip Harmon, Eugene Field, Herman Keller, Harold Ford, Jim Chipman, Bud Susterka, Robert Abercrombie, and Herbert Smith.

Girl Scouts Receive Two New Leaders

Starting the new year with two new leaders the Roosevelt Girl Scout Troops are getting off to a fine start, according to Miss Mildred Crawford, Troop nine has as its new captain Mrs. Jordan, whose husband is a new member of the Normal Speech department. Mrs. Jordan had risen to the rank of Eagle Scout and so is well qualified as a leader for Scouts. The membership this year totals 25 girls from the Seventh and Eighth grades.

Mrs. Ben Sovey has taken over the leadership of Troop 14. Mrs. Sovey was formerly a leader of a troop and is well acquainted with the work. Several of the girls in the troop are completing work on the outdoor cook badge. Others are completing work on badges of their individual preference.

Troop 5 held an organization meeting, Tuesday Dec. 5. Plans for the Troop will be announced later.

Friday, Dec. 6, a city wide meeting brought all the troops of the city together for a songfest. Each troop or combination of troops presented a skit introducing a song. Mrs. Fred Older taught all girls present four new songs.

Council Innovates Suggestion Box

With hopes that the student body as a whole might enter in and help more with the solution of certain school problems, the Roosevelt Student Council has adopted the use of a student opinion box. This innovation, introduced by Herbert Smith, senior representative, came from the Huron League Student Council Convention where it was recommended by several schools now using it.

Each week the Council picks a question to be used for a discussion topic. Any student is free to make his comment on the question at any time. Any other problems or suggestions the student may have concerning the activities of the school may be left in the box which is kept on the card file in the library.

Social Committee chairman John Kennedy announced that a separate box for popular record suggestions would be placed at the students disposal. The Council plans to buy about four records a month and hopes that those interested in popular music will offer suggestions.

The reports of committee chairmen and routine business have occupied the Council meetings to date.

Junior High Plans Educational Program

Ninth graders in Mr. Cosper's home-room have been taking dancing lessons with Mr. Cosper, Betty Roberts, and Marie Schellinger as instructors. Lois Paupst has acted as pianist. Discussion concerning sports, radio, and newspapers is carried on in the home-room and plans to present a Christmas play have been discussed.

Discussions of Roosevelt traditions and short programs planned by special committees have been the schedule of work for Miss Crawford's home-room.

Miss Boyington's eighth grade home-room is compiling a log-book of their activities. Clippings from the papers that deal with their activities are put in the book.

Miss Stinson and Miss Myers have been stressing citizenship qualities in their home-room programs. These are incorporated with schedules designed to orient the pupil with Roosevelt life.

Noon Activities Summarized

So you're a new student at Roosevelt and you are staying here noons. What are you going to do after you finish your lunch? You don't know? Well, maybe I can give you a few helpful hints.

First, have you any homework which you could do at that time? If so, the library is open during the noon hour for studious pupils. I think I had better warn you, though, that if you once go in, you have to stay until the doors open at 12:50. You see, this ruling eliminates any unnecessary commotion in the halls while some are attempting to study.

Another room, quite popular at this hour of the day, is the typing room. If you are a typing student, some extra practice may prove helpful; if you are not, a lot of students find it enjoyable to tackle the art on their own during spare moments.

The one place in the schol building which has been established expressly for the purpose of noon-hour recreation is the game room in the basement. It is well supplied with the most popular games and at the present time the Student Council is attempting to improve the project. Of course, if you wanted to, you could go down there just to exchange spicy bits of small talk with your friends—if you get what I mean.

Then, too, one day a week the Student Council sponsors a noon dance in the gymnasium. For these dances, the latest recordings are played over our P.A. system. It's definitely fun for all and all for fun!

If you have been cooped up in the building all morning, you will probably enjoy a nice, long walk. There are all sorts of paths you could follow right here on the campus—it all depends upon your own choice of scenery. Confidentially, though, I ve noticed quite a few students prefer to wander down Ypsi High way, and we'll sorta have to excuse them. Anyway, I am certain that you will find our own school and students interesting and entertaining enough to keep you close by during the noon hour.

The Student's Forum

Should We Relinquish the Phillipines?

Definitely we should not meddle. The Japanese are having little success as it is and therefore there seems to be little reason for interference. If we are a democracy, certainly we should respect the integrity of others.

—Marilyn Miller.

This is not a time to be weak. Idealism also has no place in this turbulent world of today where only power counts. The United States is regarded as a power and its opinion and ideals should be respected.

—Jane Finnigan

We should not meddle in the Far East. When we took the Philippines, we let ourselves in for a lot of trouble. I am strictly opposed to any more meddling in Oriental affairs. The Japanese and Chinese have never been grateful for our interference. The Orientals are a slow people to change and resent the drastic changes imposed by scientists and missionaries.

—Mary Steimle.

We have been an exponent of preparedness. The bases that are furnished by the Philippines are invaluable to the defense of our country. Raw materials also are invaluable. From the Isalnds we get hemp, from the Dutch Indies rubber and tungsten. Certainly we should make it part of our business.

—Marcia Geddes

Huron League Plans "Split" Schedule

New Plan to be Used For Track, Baseball

Roosevelt base-ball and track teams will play in the West division of the Huron League this spring, it was decided at a League meeting Dec. 2. This marks the first time that the League has been divided, and each division will have five teams.

With Roosevelt in the Western section will be Saline, Chelsea, Milan and University High of Ann Arbor. The division was made to relieve congested schedules in the spring sports. The tracksters will participate in four dual meets and the League field day, while the baseballers will play eight games with their four opponents, each in a home and home series.

The new plan will be used only this spring, but if it is successful it may extend to basketball and tennis. Home and home contests should bring larger crowds. The new split league also should help some members who live at opposite ends of the circuit. Chelsea before has had to travel 110 miles to play Flat Rock. The costs are prohibitive.

Normal Athletes to Coach Tank, Cage Squads; Gehring Resumes Mentorship of Swimmers

Quinn, Former Student Teacher, Wins National Track Laurels

Tom Quinn, former Roosevelt student-teacher, placed fourth in the National Athletic Association cross-country race held Nov. 28 in Detroit. Quinn also placed sixth in the National Collegiate run held recently at Michigan State College in East Lansing.

Running against the best distance runners in the country, Quinn beat out among others Gene Venzke to finish fourth behind Don Lash, Greg Rice, and Joe McCluskey.

In the Collegiate, Quinn led the Normal harriers to the line finishing sixth while the Green team finished a close second to Indiana University.

Quinn will graduate in June and has already received offers to run from the Millrose A. C. of New York City.

MICHIGAN
NORMA

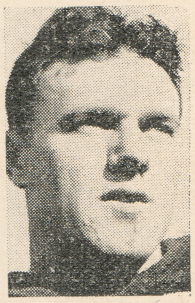
Quinn

Siera, Yuille Coach RHS Basketeers

Coaching of Roosevelt basketball and swimming teams this winter will be handled by Normal students, it was announced by Coach Art Walker at a joint opening practice on Nov. 25. Mr. Walker will supervise both sports and become director of athletics.

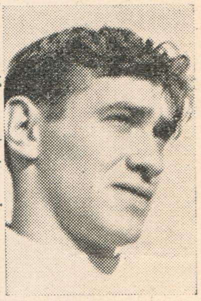
Bob Gehring, last year's coach and former Rough Rider tank star, will be assisted by Tom Herlihy in coaching the swimming squad.

Walt Siera, Normal three sport star, will take up the coaching duties of the varsity basketball team while Jack Yuille, a Normal football star, will direct the reserve team.



Siera

Siera graduated from Hamtramck High School. Upon matriculation at Normal, he took up football.. for.. the first time and became one of Normal's all-time greats. Last year little All-American honors were predicted for him but a knee injury forced him out in the first game. He saw comparatively little service this year but was valuable enough to be named captain. He starred at basketball for two years but had to give it up this year because of a knee injury. Equally adept at base-ball, he will participate in that sport this spring. He is a member of the Physical Education Club, Kappa Phi fraternity, and is majoring in Physical Education.



Yuille

Yuille prepped at Flint Central and then came to Normal. As a plunging back he won honors in his sophomore year and continued this type of play throughout his junior an senior years on the varsity... Although he has always leaned toward .. athletic football is th only varsity spor he has participated in at Normal. Like Siera he belongs to Kappa Phi, the Physical Education Club and is majoring in Physical Education.

Gehring was a state champion while at Roosevelt and took up the coaching of the Rough Rider team last year. Herlihy is Roosevelt's assistant coach and he will help with the coaching of the swimmers.

Although he refused to predict any victories or defeats, Siera expressed a liking for Roosevelt and the bunch of boys he is rapidly whipping into a varsity basketball team.

DURHAM ADVISES

Swimmers Invent Shift; Campbell Presents Problem

HOLD EVERYTHING

Hats off...Hats off this week goes to Ashtabula, Ohio, for the beautiful women they produce in that quaint little lake-port town.

* * *

Basketball is here! I walked into the locker room on the night of the opening practice and looked around me. There's Holloway, Hopps, Burrell, and all the rest, but where are those nineteen freshmen who were coming out? I see one, two, three . . . that's all! Why, the way everybody talked, I thought there would be at least fifteen. Well, maybe they will be out as soon as they get up enough nerve to appear before the new coaches and give reasons why they weren't out the opening day.

* * *

Did everybody hear about the new shift they're using on the swimming team now? As I understand it, the boys take their marks on the end of the pool, someone yells "Notre Dame Shift! One, two, three, four," and the boys go into a mad huddle near the diving board. There is a blinding flash and suddenly you can see someone swimming like mad toward the other end of the pool! It is the sprinter swimming behind the interference of the rest of the team . . . . Let's all clap! After all, it isn't such a bad idea at that.

(P. S. The perpetrators of this innovation in natatorial routine were banished from the presence of their illustrious team-mates!)

* * *

Speaking of sports: the greatest sport ever participated in is the one of trying to get autographs and then do something about it after you get them. Isn't it odd the way people are signing autographs these days? They sign their name, age, school, mailing address, visiting address, and phone number.

* * *

Weekly Problem . . .The problem this week was sent in by Noel Campbell. He was standing in the lobby of the Hotel Cleveland when a lovely brunette slithered up to him and said, "Hello, big boy! How yo' all?" Noel, of course, being the big, strong, silent type, immediately became very flustered and lost control of his speech faculties. She continued, "Wouldn't yo'all like to hold my hand?" Noel had no words to express his feelings, therefore she took it for granted that he didn't want to talk to her and walked away.

I can't do anything about it this time but Noel wants to know what he should do if anything like that ever happens again. There is only one answer, that's right, you've guessed it:

Hold Everything!

U. of M. Club Host To Prep Athletes

Generous turkey dinners, the presence of famous athletes, and inspiring speeches make a banquet perfect for high school athletes. Realizing this, the sponsors of the annual high school football banquet incorporated these activities into what was termed by Coach Arthur Walker "the best athletic banquet I've ever attended."

Sponsored by the University Club, the dinner was held in the Michigan Union the night of Nov. 26. Each high school football player was the guest of the club at the turkey dinner served in the main ballroom of the building.

A program of speeches and introductions followed the dinner with Harry Kipke the key-note speaker. Coach Walker also spoke briefly. Such celebrities as Whizzer White, Charlie Gehringer, Bob Westfall, and Ed Frutig supplied the third essential of the banquet.

Schools represented were Roosevelt, University High, St. Thomas, Ann Arbor, Lincoln, Ypsilanti Central, Dexter, Chelsea, Manchester, Milan and Saline.

The national defense program has entered Lincoln High School of Lincoln, Nebraska. The Hi-Y lunchroom of the school has been turned over to Government mechanics who are being trained in Lincoln.

—The Advocate.